

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph 5 with the following amended paragraph:

[0005] Conventional grid systems typically implement a stimulus-response environment in which operations and commands are executed ~~in~~simply in response to a given stimulus. For example, if a grid application requires certain processor capacities or a particular amount of storage space, then that amount of processor capacity or storage space may simply be assigned for execution of the grid application. This type of stimulus-response environment does not account for the dynamic nature of distributed computing, in which many ~~performances~~performance resources may be dynamically allocated, reclaimed, reserved, and so forth. Due to an inability to regulate grid application operations within such a dynamic environment, grid computing operations must be kept relatively simple to conform to a simple stimulus-response environment.

Please replace paragraph 74 with the following amended paragraph:

[0074] With regard to the prediction policies, the global autonomic manager 300 may collect and use historical or other information to predict when a particular load, resource availability, resource allocation, etc., may need to change. For example, the local processing load on a client 400 may adversely affect performance resource availability on the grid system 100 at a certain time each day. A predictive policy allows the global autonomic ~~manger~~manager 300 and client 400 to predictively adjust grid application resource availability in anticipation of a typical resource usage. This might include delaying the grid application or causing the grid application to execute sooner than normal. The particular prediction, initiation, regulation, termination, and arbitration policies are not limited to any particular policy, control algorithm, etc.

Please replace paragraph 76 with the following amended paragraph:

[0076] With further regard to the subscription manager 212, the subscription manager 212, in one embodiment, is an apparatus for managing the information collected, used, or generated in the process of determining user fees, controlling the level of service, controlling the use of the service, controlling the contribution of performance resources, etc. to or for a grid application, from or to a customer, business, etc.

Please replace paragraphs 79-82 with the following amended paragraphs:

[0079] In one embodiment, the customer profile contains information that relates the global profile to the particular customer. The customer profile may aggregate information about a particular customer, including information about client performance resource allocation and locally invoked grid applications. The customer profile may be used to determine the overall fee that a customer is charged. Similarly, in one embodiment, the client profile in the subscription manager 212 may contain similar information that corresponds to a specific client 400.

[0080] In one embodiment, the subscription manager 212 determines user fees based on one or more of the instantaneous, average, maximum, minimum, planned, reserved, peak, and so forth, use of the grid system 100 by client 400 for a grid application. In another embodiment, the subscription manager 212 may track the allocation of client performance resources to the grid system 100 by a client 400. The subscription manager 212 may track one or more of the instantaneous, average, maximum, minimum, planned, reserved, peak, and so forth, level contributed. In a further embodiment, the subscription manager 212 ~~track~~tracks a combination of one or more of the factors listed above.

[0081] In another embodiment, the subscription manager 212 may monitor and control the execution of an autonomic policy by a global autonomic manager 300 or the client 400. For example, a business may subscribe to a ~~grid~~grid system 100 for a backup retrieve grid application. To keep costs down, the business may decide to contribute performance resources to the grid system 100 from each of the connected clients 400. If

a user decides to reclaim the allocated performance resources of a particular client and reduce his contribution to zero, the subscription manager 212 may alter the client profile and customer profile to determine the appropriate fee. According to the global profile of the subscription manager 212, the global autonomic manager 300 of the grid system 100 may maintain upper and lower thresholds for performance resource allocation, thereby preventing such a reclamation of all allocated resources.

[0082]In another embodiment, the subscription manager 212 may control a policy change requested by a client 400 or by a global autonomic ~~manger~~manager 300. The customer profile of the subscription manager 212 may prevent certain changes to the resource allocation or to the grid application usage of the client 400. For example, the client profile may have a limit on the total cost that a customer may incur in a predetermined billing period. The subscription manager 212 may block certain uses by a client 400 if these limits are exceeded.